

## Memorial Dedication: Alan Holoch, 1947-1991

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Alan Holoch was an outstanding law librarian who loved his chosen profession and was an active supporter of law librarianship. I first met Alan in 1973 in Seattle at an Institute sponsored by the American Association of Law Libraries. Through the Association we became not only professional colleagues but close friends. Professor Holoch was a ready listener and advisor on matters both professional and personal. Over the years our discussions covered a wide variety of issues in law librarianship and AALL. His insights and advice often helped me and others to become better law librarians. Alan's sense of humor was legendary and his presence enlivened many long meetings.

A native of Farmer City, Illinois, Alan received a B.A. from Washington University in 1969. He told wonderful stories about trying to get his farmer father to understand why anyone needed to major in French. Alan's library degree was from the University of Southern California in 1971. After graduation he worked for four years in the USC Law Library in various professional positions primarily in technical services which culminated in an appointment as Head of Technical Services. He resigned his full-time position in 1975 to attend law school at USC and continued to work part-time in the Law Library. From 1978-1982 Alan was Associate Director at USC where, in addition to general administrative duties, he was directly responsible for managing the Public Services Department. In 1982 Professor Holoch became Director of the Law Library at Villanova University and was responsible for all phases of library operations. He also taught legal research and advanced legal research. In 1987 he became Director of the Law Library at The Ohio State University College of Law where he expanded the staff and placed renewed emphasis on service to students and faculty.

Professor Holoch was very active in his profession, and he served the American Association of Law Libraries in many leadership capacities. Alan chaired the Education Committee from 1983-1985 and was president of the Southern California Chapter in 1980-81. In 1986 he was program chair for the Washington, D.C. convention. The high quality programs, huge crowd of attendees and well organized and orchestrated events are lasting tributes to Alan's skills as a program planner and manager. He served as Treasurer of AALL from 1986-89. To those of us who served with Alan on the Executive Board, he provided not only knowledge and great ability but wit, charm and unfailing good cheer. His support during my term as AALL president made the year an enjoyable one.

His contributions as Treasurer were to simplify the AALL budgeting process, develop standard terminology for explaining the budget to the Executive Board, improve budget reports and unify many of AALL's accounts to ensure

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higher interest and lower management fees. He also introduced the now famous budget pie charts at the annual business meeting.

Alan's friends and colleagues gathered in Columbus on February 22, 1991, to remember him at a lovely memorial service in the reading room in the Law Library. The occasion was a happy event as was Alan's wish with warm remembrances of shared laughter and fun times. Although his accomplishments were many, the personal traits are what made Alan Holoch so special. His sunny personality and kindness to all hallmarked both his professional and personal life. Alan's charm and wit will long be remembered and treasured by those of us whose lives he touched.